

0:00:00.000,0:00:05.0  
(music playing throughout)

0:00:14.0,0:00:16.0  
Police! Drop the gun! [br](gunfire)

0:00:16.5,0:00:18.0  
(engine roaring)

0:00:34.0,0:00:38.0  
Narrator: This law enforcement shield is one that few are privileged to wear.

0:00:38.0,0:00:41.0  
It's the badge of the Virginia Conservation Police Officer.

0:00:42.0,0:00:47.0  
To achieve it requires hard work, determination, and comprehensive training

0:00:47.0,0:00:50.0  
along with a passion for the outdoors and its wildlife.

0:00:50.5,0:00:53.9  
The honest, intelligent, and dedicated men and women

0:00:54.0,0:00:56.0  
that are selected from hundreds of applicants

0:00:56.0,0:00:59.0  
for the Conservation Police Officer Academy

0:00:59.0,0:01:03.0  
are immersed in an environment very much like the military.

0:01:03.0,0:01:06.0  
Officers receive police training and a lot more

0:01:06.0,0:01:09.0  
because our work is unique in law enforcement

0:01:09.0,0:01:12.0  
because we provide public safety services

0:01:12.0,0:01:14.0  
as well as protect Virginia's wildlife.

0:01:15.0,0:01:16.5  
Our workplace is different,

0:01:16.5,0:01:18.0  
our vehicles are different,

0:01:18.0,0:01:21.5  
and we are trained to go into remote places by boat,

0:01:21.5,0:01:23.0  
by four-wheel drive,

0:01:23.0,0:01:25.0

or by any means necessary.

0:01:26.5,0:01:31.0

Our mission is simple: enforce the boating and wildlife laws of Virginia.

0:01:31.5,0:01:33.5

To carry out this mission is difficult

0:01:33.5,0:01:36.5

and requires special skills and talents.

0:01:37.0,0:01:39.5

Training for this mission can be very intense.

0:01:39.5,0:01:43.0

CPO Trainee: Turn around! Get on your knees!

0:01:43.0,0:01:46.0

Get on your knees now!!

0:01:46.0,0:01:48.0

Get down now!! You stay there!!

0:01:49.0,0:01:52.0

Narrator: Making an arrest on the water presents unique challenges.

0:01:52.0,0:01:56.5

Tactical marine and felony boarding training test recruit performance

0:01:56.5,0:02:00.0

in the simulated capture of wanted fugitives.

0:02:02.0,0:02:04.0

In defensive tactics,

0:02:04.0,0:02:08.0

recruits learn how to control a potentially hazardous situation,

0:02:08.0,0:02:11.0

even after being blasted in the face with pepper spray.

0:02:21.0,0:02:25.0

Physical training is the first step in molding a Conservation Police Officer.

0:02:26.0,0:02:30.0

Skills and drills are taught by expert instructors at the Academy

0:02:30.0,0:02:34.0

located at the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries' Richmond headquarters

0:02:34.0,0:02:37.0

and in various other venues throughout the Commonwealth.

0:02:37.5,0:02:40.0

The Academy runs 28 weeks,

0:02:40.0,0:02:41.5

sometimes in the classroom,

0:02:41.5,0:02:44.0

but a lot of the training takes place in the field.

0:02:45.0,0:02:47.0

(gunfire)

0:02:50.5,0:02:55.0

Tactical training teaches discipline and safety when encountering the worst situations.

0:02:55.5,0:02:57.0

Police! Drop the gun![(fires gun)]

0:02:58.0,0:03:01.0

Scenarios in which critical decisions must be made

0:03:01.0,0:03:03.0

help to hone the classroom training.

0:03:03.5,0:03:07.5

In critical circumstances, we are trained to put our fears aside

0:03:07.5,0:03:10.0

and make the decision that will save a life

0:03:10.0,0:03:13.0

maybe someone else's, maybe our own.

0:03:13.0,0:03:15.0

(gunfire)

0:03:15.5,0:03:19.0

Conservation Police Officers work on the water.

0:03:20.0,0:03:24.0

Survival swimming is a critical element in the basic Academy curriculum.

0:03:25.5,0:03:28.0

Boating safety, along with tactical boating skills,

0:03:28.0,0:03:31.0

are an essential part of the training program.

0:03:31.0,0:03:37.0

(gunfire)

0:03:37.0,0:03:40.0

We investigate boating accidents.

0:03:41.0,0:03:44.0

This crash was staged to teach new Officers skills

0:03:44.0,0:03:47.0

they will use to investigate real accidents.

0:03:50.0,0:03:53.0

We also take on the role of crime scene investigator

0:03:53.0,0:03:55.0

at the location of a hunting incident.

0:03:57.0,0:04:02.0

In the community, everyone knows the local Conservation Police Officer.

0:04:02.0,0:04:06.0

We are most always ready to discuss the best fishing hole

0:04:06.0,0:04:08.0

or the nearest public hunting spot.

0:04:09.0,0:04:11.5

Excellent training, determination and courage,

0:04:11.5,0:04:13.5

that's what sets us apart from others

0:04:13.5,0:04:17.5

and makes us Virginia Conservation Police Officers.

0:04:23.5,0:04:24.0

Go!

0:04:38.0,0:04:40.0

(gunfire)

0:05:04.0,0:05:07.0

(engine roaring)

0:05:11.0,0:05:13.0

(Conservation Police Officers being sworn in)

0:05:32.0,0:05:34.0

Officers, present!

0:05:38.0,0:05:39.0

Order!

0:05:42.0,0:05:43.0

You are now on duty.

0:05:43.0,0:05:46.0

(Applause and cheering)

0:05:58.0,0:06:03.0

(music playing throughout)